

ARMADA LINES UP AT LANGLEY

One Hundred Men Already at Work There and Others Are Arriving Daily.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., April 23.—A great air armada, the most powerful the world has ever seen in time of peace, is being assembled at Langley Field, the Government flying station near the city, for an attack on the naval forces of the United States in June.

Already there are enough explosives at the flying field to demolish the combined Atlantic and Pacific fleets—and more are arriving. Every day, rain or shine, blow or dead calm, a score of machines wing their way out to the bay. Each carries strapped underneath it a powerful set of bombs. One by one these missiles are released, the airmen sighting at floating and stationary targets in the bay below.

GOOD RECORD OF HITS. Eighty-five per cent hits at moving targets on calm days is the best record of the airmen thus far. And, according to Major Kensley, commanding officer at the station, it is a record which is not to be despised. "Why, we make better than 50 per cent hits at moving targets with the wind howling a gale of thirty-six miles an hour," the major laughed when asked about the effect of wind on the work of his men.

This record, according to men who saw service in France—and there are many of them at Langley Field—has never been bettered and seldom equaled. "With a little more practice we will be able to pick the crow's nest off any ship in Uncle Sam's navy," one of the bombers proudly declared.

The airmen are confident they will convince the world that the navy is a back number when the great test comes off in June. It, by the way, will be the most realistic test ever staged by the United States. Several old battleships will be used, and one or more of them will be guided by radio. There is no denying that the air service of the army will have all the better of it in one respect. The army airmen can come as close to the battleships as they can get, within a prescribed limit, of course, and the war craft cannot fire back on them. This will be all to the advantage of the airmen. Any man can shoot a whole lot more accurately when there is no one shooting at him than he can when the other fellow is banging away, be it with revolver, rifle, or anti-aircraft gun.

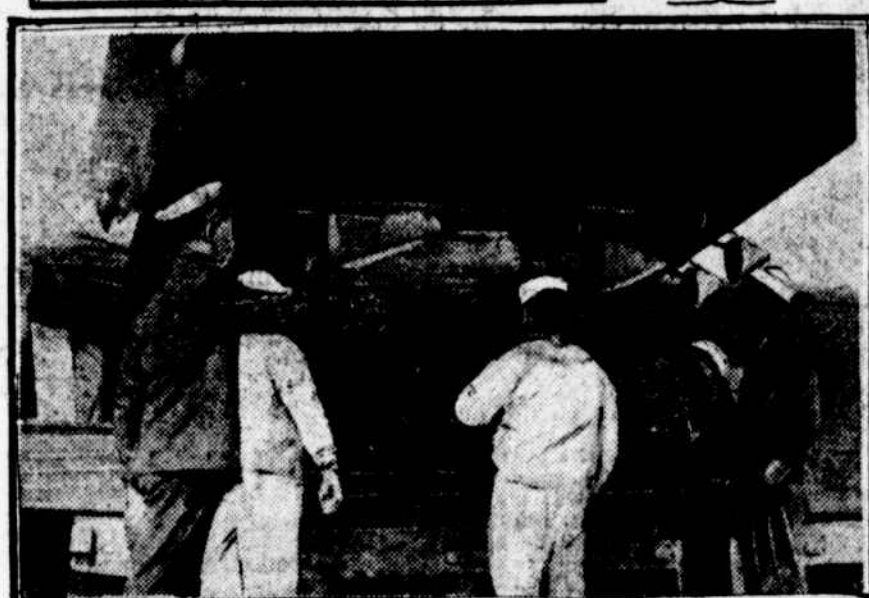
IMAGINARY BARRIER. The airmen will not be allowed to

Uncle Sam's Fighting Men Preparing for "Plane vs. Battleship" Test

FITTING CAP ON AIR BOMB.

SETTING BOMB SIGHT.

IN THE WAKE OF AN AIR BOMB.



This shows the manner in which bombs are carried beneath the wings of airplanes. The bombs are carried in cradles and are released by levers in the body of the plane. —Photos by Underwood & Underwood.

Destruction caused by explosion of a heavy aerial bomb on the deck of the obsolete United States battleship Indiana. This explosion would have killed all personnel on exposed positions on the entire bow half of the ship and probably would have disabled men on the inside of the turrets and cabins shown.

get nearer the battleships than a certain prescribed distance—this distance yet to be determined. An imaginary barrier will be drawn. And airplanes of the navy will try to see that the army's craft do not come that near.

The newspapers thus far have succeeded in getting the army to talk but very little. But all the talking thus far has been done by the army, with the exception of what Ex-Secretary Josephus Daniels did before he gave way to Denby, ex-marine and deep-sea dog. Daniels was willing to stand on the deck of a battleship and let the army pop away at him with bombs, he said. Denby is making no such rash promises.

He, however, has sent several of the navy's best air machines to Yorktown and the Hampton Roads naval base and a plan of defense is being worked out by the navy which will be kept secret until the army's craft wing their way out over Chesapeake Bay for real work.

General Mitchell, chief of the air service, will have charge of the army's craft in the attack. He is dividing his time between Washington and Langley Field. And it is reported that he is well pleased with the progress his aces are making. It has not been announced who will direct the defense for the navy. Probabilities are, however, that the commanding officer of the Atlantic fleet will have a say as to what method the navy will follow in defending itself.

There now are two score or more machines at Langley Field and a

hundred or so airmen and bombers. New machines are arriving every day and airmen and bombers are being called in from all the flying fields in the United States. Eight hundred additional officers and non-commissioned officers, all of them airmen, bombers or mechanicians, are due at the field this month.

The entire place is a beehive of industry. Major Johnson has charge of the actual test flights. His men are on the go from early morning till late at night. They think bombs, they talk bombs—and they expect to make the navy eat bombs," the major laughingly said when discussing the matter.

"The greatest difficulty we have at this time is in getting enough targets," he continued. "My men are blowing them up so fast that the Government is having difficulty in keeping us supplied."

The airmen are confident that they can make just as good a record when they attack the navy as they can it practice. "And if we do we will blow them sky high," said a sergeant who saw service with the escadrille long before America entered the war.

TO SHAPE FUTURE POLICY.

Officials of both the army and navy, the men who set the policies of the United States in matters of defense and offense, are awaiting the outcome of the test with a great deal of interest. On it will depend in a large measure, the policy of the United States in future preparedness, it is said. The battleships, of course, have their advocates. And it is rightly pointed out that even if the United States should decide to make the aircraft its main weapon of offense and defense, the battleship still would have to be retained.

The test, as Government officials recently explained, is not to determine which, if either, is to be done away with, but which is to be relied upon in certain emergencies under certain conditions.

The hundred thousand people who compromise the population of Newport News, Hampton, Phoebus and vicinity are for the battleship. They always have talked and thought in terms of battleships—and they expect to continue to as long as the United States needs any weapon of offense or defense. They are frank to state, as a rule, that they do not think the test can be a fair one, for the battleships will not be allowed to fire back on the sputtering circling demon of the air.

THE REAL SIGNIFICANCE.

The citizens and the men of both the army and navy, however, are convinced that the test will have one real significance—and significance which is said to be generally overlooked elsewhere. They believe, as do the experts of both the army and the navy, that the real test of strength will come here at the Virginia capes and in Chesapeake Bay, the approach to Washington, Baltimore, Newport News and Norfolk, if America is ever forced to defend itself against an invading host. New York, of course, will be attacked, but an invader would select this district, it is said, to strike at the heart of the nation.

Officers at Fort Monroe, Fort Story and Camp Eustis also are looking at the test from this standpoint. And each has in his mind some plan which he believes would solve the problem, or help solve it. Fort Monroe, as is generally known, is more of a training camp than a fort. Mining of the bay, is of course, controlled from Monroe. Storey is the fort with the real teeth, however.

Eustis is a railway artillery training camp and can drop shells out in the bay with a fair amount of accuracy. LEWIS T. JESTER.

\$425,000 Spent on Missions. RICHMOND, Va., April 23.—Methodist missionary societies in this country spent \$425,000 in missions during the year just passed, according to a report read before the biennial convention of the Women's Missionary Council of the Methodist Churches

CENSORSHIP STAND EXPLAINED BY K. C.

Catholic Order Favors Letting Film Producers Work Out Own Salvation.

Beseiged by Catholic and non-Catholic reform societies in all parts of the United States and Canada to give an official statement on their stand on motion picture censorship, the Knights of Columbus, through Supreme Secretary William J. McGinley, have declared for some form of control over the "movies."

"Neither the K. of C. nor any other body can give any blanket support to censorship without knowing something of the personal character of the censors. If narrow, blue-law minds are to be our censors we should probably never graduated beyond picturizations of Mother Goose and copy-book maxims. But, unquestionably, there is ample scope for fine pictures of life as it is lived without the evil suggestiveness and so-called lavish spectacles that are featured so much."

"No feature of motion-picture entertainment is so engrossing as the news-reels published by different companies. Yet these news-reels rarely, if ever, make any appeal to sex. They are interesting moving pictures of the events of the day and people want to see them more than they want to see black-eyed vamps and powdered Don Juans."

"The Knights of Columbus prefer to see the industry, which is big enough and certainly generous in all good causes, control itself and expel or in some way punish frequent offenders against good taste. Failing this, legal censorship will be the lesser of two evils, the other being uncontrolled license."

GEN. EDWARDS GETS O. K. OF COMMITTEE

Senate Military Affairs Committee Nominates Brigadier.

By a vote of 12 to 3, the Senate Military Affairs Committee late yesterday afternoon ordered a favorable report on the nomination of Brig. Clarence Edwards to be a major general. Eleven other brigadiers nominated to be major generals were ordered reported favorably by a unanimous vote.

Secretary of War Weeks appeared before the committee for two hours in executive session and urged the favorable report on the nomination.

It is understood that the Secretary definitely informed the committee that General Edwards will not be made chief of staff.

Columbia Conservatory of Music
The Following Instruments Taught:

Piano Violin Mandolin Banjo Ukulele

Open 10:00 A. M. to 9:00 P. M.
1207 Pennsylvania Ave. N. E. Tel. Main 6861.
Musical Instruments For Sale.

MUSICAL INSTRUCTORS
Wash. Conservatory of Music
Special Summer Rates After April 15
to Govt. Clerks and School Children.
MAIN 7818.
3408 N. H. AVE. AT DUPONT CIRCLE.

H. LEROY LEWIS,
Teacher of Voice.
Studio 1486 H Street, Franklin 7831.

BERT SAULSMAN,
The drummer at the Gayety Theater, will teach you to drum. Address 714 Cat. St. E. Phone Lin. 2715-W, or Gayety Theater.

PAYROLL MESSENGER FOILS LONE BANDIT

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., April 23.—Cecil Campbell, twenty, of Stratford, a messenger, returning from a local bank to the foundry offices of the Wolverine Motor Company with \$4,000 for the payroll of the factory, was black-jacked by a lone bandit about a block from the factory this morning in an attempt to rob him of the money.

Campbell escaped with the money. The bandit also escaped.

Death Cheats the Law.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 23.—Death cheated the law when Nelson Barger, from Hamilton, sentenced to be executed, died of tuberculosis in the State prison hospital here. Barger was sentenced for the murder of a patrolman a year ago.

SINN FEIN FORCES IN DRAMATIC RAID

Hold Up Fifty Cork Postmen and Escape Quietly With Tons of Mail.

DUBLIN, April 23.—Sinn Fein forces spectacularly held up fifty of the King's postmen, leaving the post-office at Cork today, seized all the mail bags in the city and county mail, weighing several tons, and departed in motor cars.

The hold-up was so cleverly managed that the departing motor cars failed to attract any attention from crown forces stationed on duty in the vicinity.

SPECIALISTS IN PLAYED PIANOS
O. J. DEMOLL & CO.
Washington's AEOLIAN HALL - Twelfth and G Streets
Stoneyard Dumbert Peoples' Theater Dumbert Peoples' Theater

WONDERFUL VALUES
OFFERED IN OUR

PIANO EXCHANGE

UPRIGHT PIANOS	
Girard	\$200
Howard	\$200
Baldwin	\$250
Heller	\$150
Newby & Evans	\$125
Mathushek	\$125
Shattinger	\$175

Four Second-hand Weber Pianos, 88 note, have been remodeled and put in first-class condition. **\$600 Each**

1 Auto-Piano	\$375
1 Behning Player	\$450
1 Angelus Player	\$500

And Many Others

Four New VICTOR Dance Selections

By Whiteman's Orchestra

85c	UNDERNEATH HAWAIIAN SKIES
85c	SIP, SIP, SIPPY SHORE
85c	MAKE BELIEVE
85c	SOME LITTLE BIRD

All "Hits" on Q. R. S. Music Rolls

VAN WICKLE PIANO CO.
1217 F Street N. W.

DROOP'S MUSIC HOUSE
1857 1921

"The Standard
For Tone
Quality"



"The Piano
of the Musical
Immortals"

Steinway

Musical History is linked with "Steinway." The passing of years but emphasizes the Steinway right to the title of "The Piano of the Musical Immortals."

The cultivation of Music in the Home means so much toward the advancement of education, the uplifting and inspiring thought for good and harmonious things, that by all means the Piano of the Home should be a thoroughly high-class instrument. None answers that qualification as well as "Steinway."

Here you will always find an interestingly complete stock of both Grands and Uprights, which is a delight to musical folks to inspect and try. You are welcome.

E. F. DROOP & SONS CO.
PLAYER-PIANOS 1300 G St. VICTOR VICTROLAS

Open Evenings Till 9 o'Clock

This Is the New Style 80

Victrola

\$100



The best Victrola value in years. A handsomely cased cabinet Victrola at just the price you want to pay. Secure yours before this shipment is sold out.

EASY TERMS

Arthur Jordan Piano Co.

Homer L. Kitt, Secy. & Treas.

G Street at 13th

Home of the Chickering Piano.

OPENING

WHERE TO GO FOR

Records and Rolls

The Art Craft Music and Novelty Shop

The Store of Perfect Service

Between Garden and Strand Theaters

419 Ninth Street N. W.

We Are Carrying a Complete Stock of
Aeolian-Vocalion and Emerson Records
Q. R. S. Melodee and Ideal Records

We Play Records and Rolls

A Wonderful Assortment of Souvenirs and Dolls.

A Few of the Latest Hits on the Records:

IDEAL
ROLLS
35c Each

My Mammy
Humming
Under Hawaiian Skies
Margie
Palesteena
Grieving For You
Bright Eyes
Boll Weevil Blues and
Feather Your Nest

IDEAL
ROLLS
35c Each

Sam Kroomim
Prop.

Harry Sheers,
Mgr.

OPEN EVENINGS AND SUNDAYS

Mr. Byron E. Blodgett

announces that he is
now associated with

McHugh & Lawson

1222 G Street N.W.

Pianos, Players, Phonographs

PRE-WAR PRICES

This \$120 Grafonola

\$85

Compare It With Any Other Talking
Machine of \$100 or More

LET US
DEMONSTRATE ONE
IN YOUR HOME

Reasonable Terms to Suit
Your Convenience

HARRY C. GROVE, Inc.

Washington's Original Columbia Store

1210 G St. N. W.

Branches: 623 Pa. Ave. S. E., 1534 7th St. N. W.,
1830 14th St. N. W.